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09/578,713	05/26/2000	Shin-ichi Itoh	067183/0187	7923

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EXAMINER

BAUGH, APRIL L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2141

DATE MAILED: 07/03/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/578,713

Applicant(s)

ITOH, SHIN-ICHI

Examiner

April L Baugh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION:

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 May 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2. 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claim 1-19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by Sato et al.

Regarding claim 1, Sato et al. teaches an image transfer system, comprising: one or more terminal equipments; one or more facsimile apparatus; and a network for interconnecting said terminal equipments and said facsimile apparatus (column 1, lines 15-18); each of said facsimile apparatus including coding means for coding image data included in data inputted to the facsimile apparatus from the outside in accordance with a unique coding method (column 5, lines 10-12), image data storage means for storing the image data coded by said coding means (column 1, lines 64-66), and decoding program signaling means for outputting, when the image data stored in said image data storage means is to be outputted to an arbitrary one of said terminal equipment decoding program for decoding image data coded in accordance with the coding method in response to an acquisition request from the terminal equipment (column 6, lines 39-43).

Referring to claims 2, 4, and 7, Sato et al. teaches an image transfer system as claimed in claim 1, 3, and 5, wherein each of said terminal equipments includes: network control means for controlling connection to and data communication with any of said facsimile apparatus over said network (column 2, lines 13-16); inputting means for inputting an operation instruction to initiate a WWW browser; program execution control means for controlling execution of a program for initiating the WWW browser in response to the operation instruction inputted by said inputting means; and display means for displaying the WWW browser executed by said program execution control means (column 4, lines 44-47).

Regarding claim 3, Sato et al. teaches an image transfer system, comprising one or more terminal equipments; one or more facsimile apparatus; and a network for interconnecting said terminal equipments and said facsimile apparatus (column 1, lines 15-18 and 21-23); each of said facsimile apparatus including coding means for coding image data included in data inputted to the facsimile apparatus over a public network in accordance with a unique coding method (column 5, lines 10-12), image data storage means for storing the image data coded by said coding means (column 1, lines 64-66), management means for managing the image data stored in said image data storage means and page information of the image data, network control means for controlling connection to and data communication with any of said terminal equipments over said network (column 2, lines 14-17), acquisition request reception means for receiving an acquisition request outputted from any of said terminal equipments, acquisition request analysis means for analyzing the acquisition request received by said acquisition request reception means, HTML document data signaling means for signaling, when it is analyzed by said acquisition request analysis means that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for HTML document

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data, the HTML document data (column 5, lines 8-10 and column 12, lines 40-44), decoding program signaling means for signaling, when it is analyzed by said acquisition request analysis means that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for a decoding program for decoding image data decoded in accordance with the coding method, image data signaling means for signaling (column 6, lines 39-43), when it is analyzed by said acquisition request analysis means that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for image data coded in accordance with the coding method, and signaling means for transmitting a response to the acquisition request signaled from one of said HTML document data signaling means, said decoding program signaling means and said image data signaling means to the terminal equipment through said network control means (column 10, lines 44-52).

Referring to claim 5, Sato et al. teaches each of said facsimile apparatus including coding means four coding image data included in data inputted to the facsimile apparatus from the outside in accordance with a unique coding method (column 5, lines 10-12), and image data storage means for storing the image data coded by said coding means (column 5, lines 59-61); said WWW server including decoding program storage means in which a decoding program for decoding image data coded in accordance with the coding method is stored, and decoding program signaling means for outputting the decoding program in response to a request from the terminal equipment (column 6, lines 39-43).

Regarding claim 6, Sato et al. teaches an image transfer system as claimed in claim 5, wherein each of said facsimile apparatus further includes: management means for managing the image data stored in said image data storage means and page information of the image data; network control means for controlling connection to and data communication with any of said

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terminal equipments and said WWW sever over said network (column 2, line 14-17); acquisition request reception means for receiving an acquisition request outputted from any of said terminal equipments; acquisition request analysis means for analyzing the acquisition request received by said acquisition request reception means; HTML document data signaling means for signaling, when it is analyzed by said acquisition request analysis means that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for HTML document data, the HTML document data (column 5, lines 8-10 and column 12, lines 40-44); image data signaling means for signaling, when it is analyzed by said acquisition request analysis means that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for image data coded in accordance with the coding method; and signaling means for transmitting a response to the acquisition request signaled from one of said HTML document data signaling means and said image data signaling means to the terminal equipment through said network control means (column 10, lines 44-52).

Referring to claim 8, Sato et al. teaches an image transfer system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said WWW server includes: network control means for controlling connection to and data communication with any of said facsimile apparatus and said terminal equipments over said network (column 1, lines 15-18 and 21-23 and column 2, lines 14-17); acquisition request reception means for receiving an acquisition request outputted from any of said terminal equipments; acquisition request analysis means for analyzing the acquisition request received by said acquisition request reception means (column 5, lines 8-10 and column 10, lines 44-52 and column 12, lines 40-44); decoding program signaling means for signaling, when it is analyzed by said acquisition request analysis means that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for a decoding program for decoding image data decoded in accordance with the coding method; and

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transmission means for transmitting the decoding program signaled from said decoding program
signaling means as a response to the acquisition request to the terminal equipment through said
network control means (column 6, lines 39-43).

Regarding claim 9, Sato et al. teaches an image transfer method for an image transfer system wherein one or more terminal equipments and one or more facsimile apparatus are interconnected by a network (column 1, lines 15-18 and 21-23), comprising the steps of: outputting image data coded in accordance with a unique coding method by and stored in any of said facsimile apparatus to an arbitrary one of said terminal equipments (column 5, lines 10-12); and outputting a decoding program for decoding image data coded in accordance with the coding method to the terminal equipment in response to a request from the terminal equipment (column 6, lines 39-43).

Referring to claim 10, 15, and 16, Sato et al. teaches an image transfer method as claimed in claim 9, 13, and 14, wherein any of said terminal equipments executes: an operation instruction inputting step of inputting an operation instruction to initiate a WWW browser; a program initiation step of initiating a program for the WWW browser in response to the operation instruction inputted by the operation instruction inputting step; a WWW browser display step of displaying the WWW browser initiated by the program initiation step (column 4, lines 44-47 and column 5, lines 8-10); a URL discrimination step of discriminating whether or not a URL of any of said facsimile apparatus is inputted; a HTML document data acquisition request notification step of sending, when it is discriminated by the discrimination step that a URL is inputted, a notification of an acquisition request for HTML document data, to that one of said facsimile apparatus which has the URL through said network; a HTML document data

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reception step of receiving the HTML document data transmitted from the facsimile apparatus in response to the notification, of the acquisition request by the HTML document data acquisition request notification step (column 10, lines 55-57 and 64-66 and column 12, lines 30-33); a HTML document data display step of displaying the HTML document data received by the HTML document data reception step; a program execution description discrimination step of discriminating whether or not a program execution description is present in the HTML document data displayed by the HTML document data display step (column 10, lines 43-52); a decoding program acquisition request notification step of sending, when it is discriminated by the program execution description discrimination step that the program execution description is present, a notification of an acquisition request for a decoding program to the facsimile apparatus; a decoding program reception step of receiving the decoding program transmitted from the facsimile apparatus in response to the acquisition request notification by the decoding program acquisition request notification step; a decoding program execution step of executing the decoding program received by the decoding program reception step; an image data acquisition request notification step of sending a notification of an acquisition request for image data to the facsimile apparatus; an image data reception step of receiving the image data transmitted from the facsimile apparatus in response to the acquisition request by the image data acquisition request notification step; an image data decoding step of decoding the image data received by the image data reception step based on the decoding program executed by the decoding program execution step; and an image data display step of displaying the image data decoded by the image data decoding step (column 6, lines 39-49).

Regarding claim 11 and 12, Sato et al. teaches an image transfer method as claimed in ~~claim 9 and 10~~, wherein any of said facsimile apparatus executes a coding step of coding image data included in data inputted to the facsimile apparatus over a public network in to accordance with the unique coding method (column 5, lines 10-12); an image data storage step of storing the image data coded by the coding step (column 5, lines 59-61); a management step of managing the image data stored by the image data storage step and page information of the image data (column 2, lines 13-16); an acquisition request reception step of receiving an acquisition request transmitted from any of said terminal equipments over said network; an acquisition request analysis step of analyzing the acquisition request received by the acquisition request reception step; a first discrimination step of discriminating whether or the acquisition request analyzed by the acquisition request analysis step is an acquisition request for HTML document data; a HTML document data signaling step of signaling, when it is discriminated by the first discrimination step that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for HTML document data, the HTML document data to the terminal equipment; a second discrimination step of discriminating, when it is not discriminated by the first discrimination step that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for HTML document data (column 4, lines 44-47 and column 10, lines 43-52), whether or the acquisition request is an acquisition request for a decoding program; a decoding program signaling step of signaling, when it is discriminated by the second discrimination step that the to acquisition request is an acquisition request for a decoding program, the decoding program to the terminal equipment; a third discrimination step of discriminating, when it is not discriminated by the second discrimination step that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for a decoding program (column 6, lines 39-43), whether or the acquisition request is an acquisition

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request for image data; an image data. signaling step of signaling, when it is discriminated by the third discrimination step that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for image data, the image data to the terminal equipment (column 8, lines 12-16); and an error information signaling step of signaling error information when it is not discriminated by the third discrimination step that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for image data (column 12, lines 6-7).

Referring to claim 13, Sato et al. teaches an image transfer method for an image transfer system wherein one or more terminal equipments, one or more facsimile apparatus and a WWW server are interconnected by a network (column 3, lines 61-63), comprising the steps of: outputting image data coded in accordance with a unique coding method by axed stored in any of said facsimile apparatus to an arbitrary one of said terminal equipments (column 5, lines 10-12); and outputting, from said WWW server in which a decoding program for decoding image data coded in accordance with, the coding method, the decoding program to the terminal equipment in response to a request from the terminal equipment (column 6, lines 39-43).

Regarding claim 14, Sato et al. teaches are image transfer method as claimed in claim 18, wherein any of said facsimile apparatus executes: a coding step of coding image data included in data inputted to the facsimile apparatus over a. public network in accordance with the unique coding method (column 5, lines 10-12); an image data storage step of storing the image data coded by the coding step a management step of managing the image data stored by the image data storage step and page information of the image data (column 2, lines 13-16 and column 5, lines 59-61); an acquisition request reception step of receiving an acquisition request transmitted from any of said terminal equipments over said network; an acquisition request analysis step of analyzing the acquisition request received by the acquisition request reception step; a first

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discrimination step of discriminating whether or the acquisition request analyzed by the acquisition request analysis step is an acquisition request for HTML document data; a HTML document data signaling step of signaling, when it is discriminated by the first discrimination step that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for HTML document data, the HTML document data to the terminal equipment; a second discrimination step of discriminating, when it is not discriminated by the first discrimination step that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for HTML document data (column 4, lines 4-47 and column 10, lines 43-52), whether or the acquisition request is an acquisition request for image data; an image data signaling step of signaling, when it is discriminated by the second discrimination step that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for image data, the image data to the terminal equipment (column 8, lines 12-16); and an error information signaling step of signaling error information when it is not discriminated by the second discrimination step that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for image data (column 12, lines 6-7).

Regarding claim 17, 18, and 19, Sato et al. teaches an image transfer method as claimed in claim 13, 14, and 15, wherein said WWW server executes: an acquisition request reception step of receiving an acquisition request outputted from any of said terminal equipments over said network; an acquisition request analysis step of analyzing the acquisition request received by the acquisition request reception step (column 12, lines 42-43); a decoding program signaling step of signaling, when it is analyzed by the acquisition request analysis step that the acquisition request is an acquisition request for a decoding program for image data decoded in accordance with the coding method, the decoding program to the terminal equipment; and a transmission step of

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transmitting the decoding program signaled by the decoding program signaling step as a response to the acquisition request to the terminal equipment (column 6, lines 39-49).

Conclusion

1. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to image transfer systems in general:

US Pat No. 6,404,762 to Luzeski et al.

US Pat No. 6,288,799 to Sekiguchi

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to April L Baugh whose telephone number is 703-305-5317. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A Wiley can be reached on 703-308-5221. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-9149 for regular communications and 703-746-9149 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

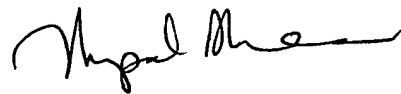
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June 29, 2003



**RUPAL DHARIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER**